

Gallaudet Fact—

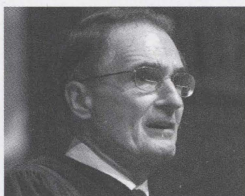
Q. What happened at College Hall in 1910 that forced students to evacuate and left the building encased by ice?

Answer on page 4.

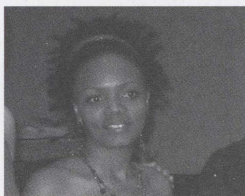


Interim Provost Michael Moore (left), Clerc Center Dean Katherine Jankowski (fifth from left); President Robert Davila (right); and Graduate School and Professional Studies Dean Thomas Allen (second from right) congratulate retiring faculty and staff members at Academic Affairs' April 26 reception. The retirees are (from second left): James Barrie, Language Arts teacher/researcher, KDES Principal's Office (31 years); Reginald King, Graphics Communications teacher/researcher, MSSD (36 years); David Schleper, coordinator, Training Development and Literacy Projects, Clerc Center's National Mission Training and Dissemination (20 years); Dr. Margaret Hallau, director, Clerc Center's National Outreach, Research, and Evaluation Network (26 years); Bernard Brown, assistant professor, Department of Business (five years); Dr. Edward Wilk, associate professor, Department of Business (21 years); and Dr. Diane Morton, professor, Department of Counseling (13 years). (Not pictured are: Lillie Ackerman, administrative assistant, dean, Graduate School and Professional Studies (23 years); Dr. Carole Frankel, associate professor, Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (31 years); Dr. Michael Karchmer, professor, Gallaudet Research Institute (31 years); Kenneth Kurlychek, webmaster II, Clerc Center's Information Systems/Computer Support (30 years); Dr. William McCrone, professor, Department of Counseling (30 years); Robert McNeil, low vision specialist, Office for Students with Disabilities (seven years); Ruth Milton, administrative secretary, Office for Students with Disabilities (16 years); Donald Moores, professor, Department of Education (27 years); and Eileen O'Toole, school psychologist, Clerc Center's Counseling, Assessment, and Social Work Services (33 years).)

IN THIS ISSUE



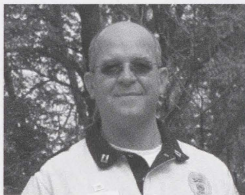
Dr. Albert Simone, president of the Rochester Institute of Technology, delivers the Commencement address.



Boitumelo Moanakwa participates in the Miss International Gallaudet competition.



Akie Abe, the wife of Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, gets a personal welcome from Dr. Davila.



Up Close

DPS Captain Patrick Rader: "My goal is to help students feel safe and comfortable..."



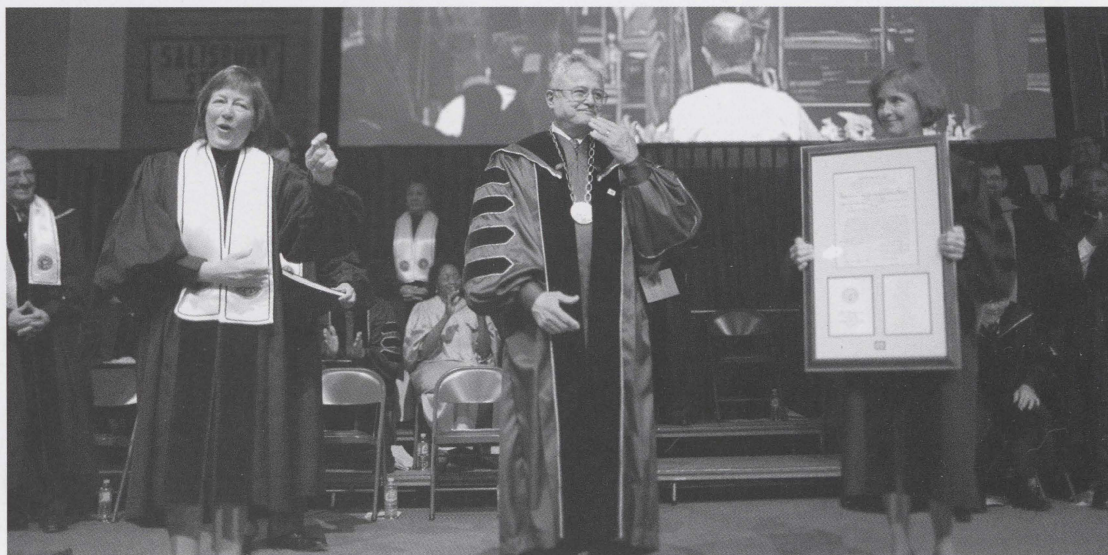
Miss National Asian Deaf Congress, Elaine Kam performs a traditional Filipino dance at a fundraiser in support of the Philippine School for the Deaf 100th anniversary.

ON THE GREEN

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Dr. Robert Davila installed as Gallaudet's ninth president



Board of Trustees Chair Pamela Holmes (left) officially declares Dr. Robert Davila as Gallaudet's ninth president while trustee Nancy Kelly-Jones presents the Gallaudet charter.

A key moment in Gallaudet's history took place May 9 when Dr. Robert R. Davila was installed as the University's ninth president. The moving ceremony in the University's Field House demonstrated the campus community's confidence in Davila's vision for Gallaudet and its readiness to join him in ensuring its ongoing success and worldwide prestige.

The event to formally commemorate Davila's role as president took place in an atmosphere brimming with goodwill. Constituents from every part of the University—alumni, boards of associates and trustees, faculty, staff, teachers, students, and even a representative of tomorrow's generation of deaf leaders, Kendall School fourth grader Bridgett Berrigan—came forward to give the new president their heartfelt congratulations and stand with him, ready to serve, in fulfilling his pledge to move Gallaudet forward.

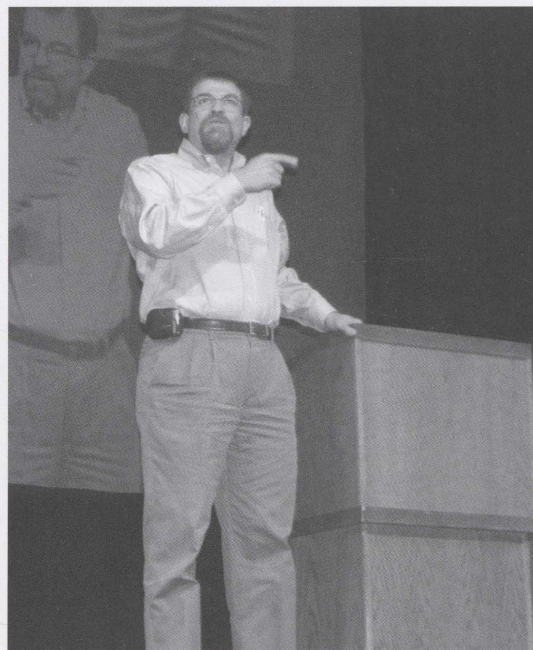
Adding to the festive nature of the event, a video clip showed the rich diversity of the Gallaudet community, with people of all backgrounds expressing thanks—in both ASL and

native sign languages from around the globe—to Davila for his leadership and his open communication with the Gallaudet community. The Gallaudet Dance Company performed Mariah Carey and Walter Afanasieff's popular song "Hero," choreographed and translated into ASL by Maya Yamada. A painting by Jiayi Zhou entitled "Bob's Vlogs," a tribute to Davila's informative weekly video presentations on issues of interest to the campus community, was displayed. And Monique Holt, a president's fellow in the Theatre Arts program, presented her ASL poem, "Open Conversations," dedicated to the new president.

Board of Trustees Chair Pamela Holmes called the occasion "a celebration of Dr. Davila's remarkable leadership abilities and a symbol to all of us with a stake in Gallaudet's future ... that we are united in our commitment to help Gallaudet achieve a bright future." In installing him as the University's ninth president, Holmes said, "... we can think of no better man to lead us forward than you. Team Gallaudet!"

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Re-accreditation not 'an option, it's a must,' Davila stresses



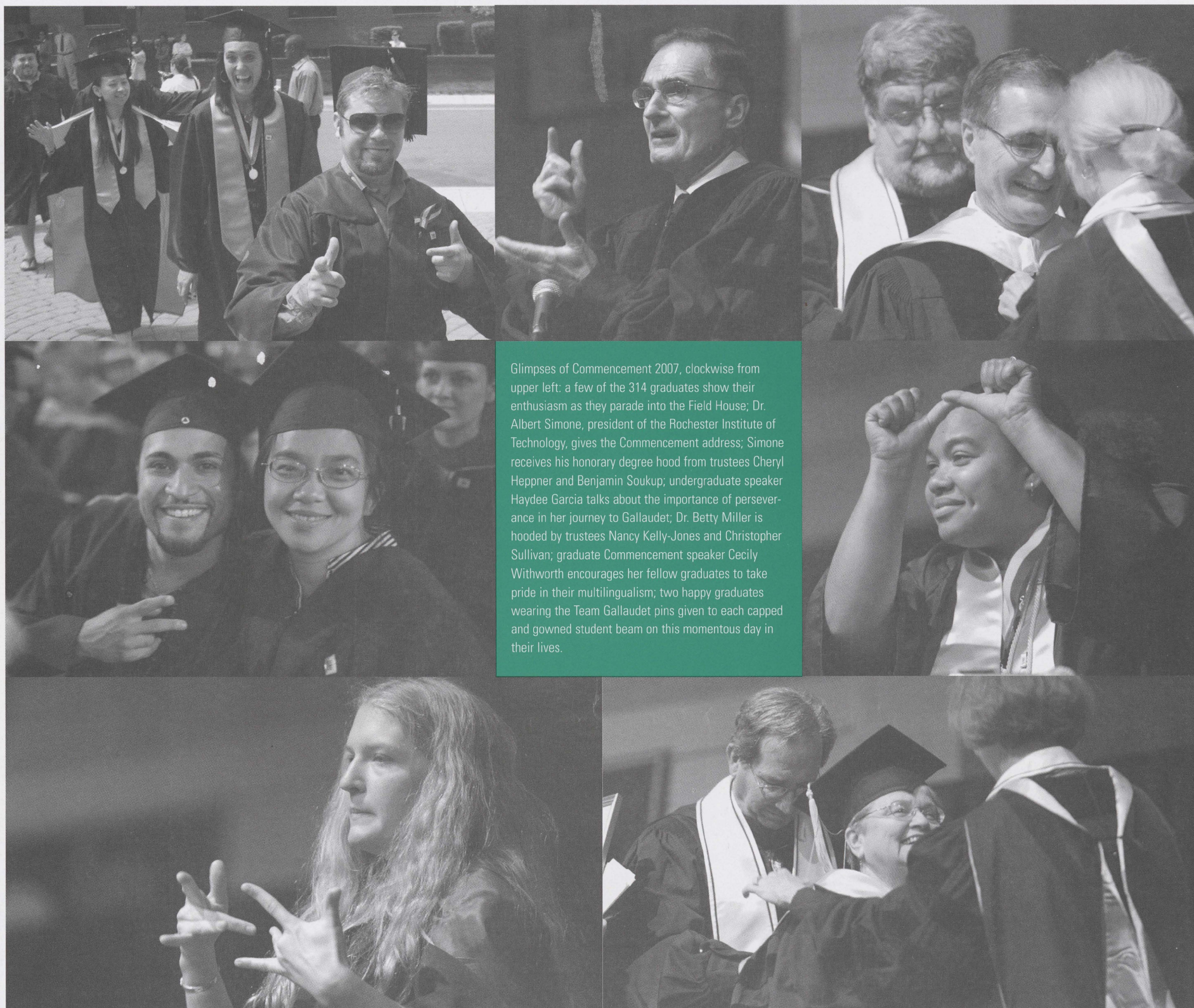
Gallaudet's new provost, Dr. Stephen Weiner, addresses the audience at a Town Hall meeting after his selection for the post was announced by President Davila.

President Robert Davila made an impassioned plea to the campus community May 7 to join him in devoting all its skills and energy to clear the hurdles set forth by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education in Gallaudet's bid for re-accreditation.

At the end of a town hall meeting in which Dr. Davila named Department of Communication Studies associate professor Stephen Weiner as the University's new provost, the president committed himself to take the lead in meeting unprecedented challenges on which Gallaudet's survival hinges. "I can't imagine the world without Gallaudet, but if we don't take the bull by the horns, it will be very close if we don't," he said. "Please help us, please help yourself," he implored. "We have a provost you have confidence in. We are primed to do excellent things. ... I stand prepared to do absolutely everything; I will spare no effort ... I will lead you no matter what, but when I look behind me, I expect to see you there."

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Class of '07 lifelong members of Team Gallaudet, says President Davila



Glimpses of Commencement 2007, clockwise from upper left: a few of the 314 graduates show their enthusiasm as they parade into the Field House; Dr. Albert Simone, president of the Rochester Institute of Technology, gives the Commencement address; Simone receives his honorary degree hood from trustees Cheryl Heppner and Benjamin Soukup; undergraduate speaker Haydee Garcia talks about the importance of perseverance in her journey to Gallaudet; Dr. Betty Miller is hooded by trustees Nancy Kelly-Jones and Christopher Sullivan; graduate Commencement speaker Cecily Withworth encourages her fellow graduates to take pride in their multilingualism; two happy graduates wearing the Team Gallaudet pins given to each capped and gowned student beam on this momentous day in their lives.

The Class of 2007 was given words of encouragement, best wishes, and a reminder that they are lifelong members of Team Gallaudet—"a responsibility that never ends," by President Robert Davila, who presided over his first Gallaudet Commencement. (See the photo gallery of Commencement exercises at admissions.gallaudet.edu/UG_gallery/events.asp.)

A total of 314 graduates received diplomas at Gallaudet's 138th exercises on May 11—189 undergraduate degrees and 125 graduate degrees, including six Ph.D. degrees, five Au.D. degrees, three specialist in school psychology degrees, and five education specialist degrees.

Graduates and their families, wearing their spring finery, gathered outside the Field House long before the 1:30 p.m. starting time. Soon, faculty members in regalia entered and proceeded down the isles. Finally, the students lined up for the processional and a flurry of caps and gowns—many with personal accents added or with private jokes or special thanks written on them—streamed into the building. Once everyone had taken their seats and proud family members had rained camera flashes on the graduates, the ceremony began.

Standing before the new graduates,

Dr. Davila said he could remember the same day as a member of Gallaudet's Class of '53 as a pivotal moment in his life. "I was excited, grateful, and just a little anxious about what the future would hold," he said. But he added that his Gallaudet education "benefited me in many advantageous ways through my career, and I promise that it will also benefit you."

Dr. Albert Simone, who has served since 1992 as the eighth president of the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), which includes the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) among its eight colleges, was this year's Commencement speaker. Simone, who Davila called "a friend and a true educational leader," will retire from his post in June. He was the first RIT president to learn sign language, and the first president to sign his Commencement address at RIT. Faces in the audience showed appreciative smiles as Simone signed his Gallaudet address.

Simone, a long-time humanitarian and civic activist, is a noted supporter of the University. He assisted Gallaudet in establishing its regional center in Hawaii at Kapi'olani Community College in 1988 when he was president of the University of Hawaii System and chancellor of the University of Hawaii at

Manoa.

Like Davila, Simone looked at the expectant faces of the new graduates before him, and reflected back to his undergraduate days as "the most formative and influential years of my life ... it was there that I found my true identity." As a student at Tufts University he decided on his career, developed leadership skills, formed a lifetime network of friends, met his future wife, and learned lessons that helped him raise a family and become a responsible citizen. "Truly, this is one of the most significant days of our life," said Simone. While a multitude of challenges awaits today's graduates, he said, "The good news is that we have every confidence that you are up to the task. ... We need you. Our country needs you. ... You will make a difference in the world."

The difficult time the Gallaudet community experienced during the recent presidential search process, "is behind you now," said Simone. "Bob Davila is with you now. The future remains bright for Gallaudet with everyone working together: you as new alumni, other alumni, your president and his team, the faculty and staff, continuing students, your

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ON THE GREEN

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Graduate Hooding and Awards Ceremony

Noted deaf leader Nancy Bloch's message to the Class of 2007 at the May 10 Graduate Hooding and Awards Ceremony was: One—"Never lose sight of your place within the American deaf community;" and, Two—"Give back to those who have a role in your success."

Bloch, chief executive officer of the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) since 1992 and a former faculty member at Gallaudet, reminded the graduates that they follow in the footsteps of fellow Gallaudet degree-holders who "have changed the world for the better. ... You will carry on the legacy [of Gallaudet] as a worldwide beacon of hope."

To be effective leaders and good citizens, the graduates must realize "It's one thing to be of service to the deaf community and quite another to be part of the community itself," said Bloch. She urged the graduates to cultivate relationships within the deaf community, welcome dialogue that encourages diverse opinions, and be active in civic endeavors.

"True success isn't just academics or work, it is also about helping others," said Bloch. "Sometimes we take the rights of the deaf community for granted. We need to be constantly reminded that even in today's world, things are not as equal as they seem to be or should be." Since 1880, the NAD has fought to protect, promote, and preserve the civil and access rights of the American deaf community, said Bloch. "We are in a constant struggle to break down communication and attitudinal barriers; this is where you come in," she said. As they leave Gallaudet and go into the next phase of their lives, Bloch asked the graduates to "keep the advocacy spirit alive, and give back generously."

Also expressing congratulations and wishes for a happy and successful future to the graduate class were President Davila, Board of Trustees Chair Pamela Holmes, Interim Provost Michael Moore, and Graduate School and Professional Studies Dean Thomas Allen.

Following is a list of outstanding graduate students who were recognized with awards at the ceremony:

Department of Social Work: *G. Arlene Gavin Award*—Margaux Delotte-Bennett, Karen Gudelman; *The Catherine H. Moses Award*—Terri Dietz, David Spicer

Department of Psychology: *The Elizabeth Peet Award*—Susan Pfister Cartwright, Sarah Gaines; *The Larry Stewart Award*—Carolyn Pezzarossi

Department of ASL and Deaf Studies: *The George Veditz Deaf Studies Award*—Lindsey Parker

Department of Administration and Supervision: *The Thomas J. Landers Award*—Brayde Ridenhour; *The Thomas and Julia Burg Mayes Award*—Mary Lott

Department of Counseling: *The Francine White Outstanding Student Award*—Joanna Roang

Department of Interpretation: *The Interpretation Research Award*—Elizabeth Taylor; *The Ron Coffey Award*—Wafo Ndetatsin

Department of Linguistics: *Outstanding Linguistics Graduate Student Award*—Lindsay Ferrara, Julie Hochgesang

Department of Education: *The Daniel T. Cloud Award*—Jayne Kennedy, Marlon Wynne; *The Helen Fay Award*—Janet Eisfeld; *David S. Martin Award*—Godwin Irokaba, Mein Chun Lin, Sheng Li; *The Philip J. Schmitt Award*—Frank Germinaro; *The Marjorie Stull Memorial Scholarship Award*—Mary Cregan

The Department of Hearing, Speech, and Language Sciences: *The Seltzer League Award*—Alison Chumrau, Tiffany Harvey, Lindsay Overton

The Department of Physical Education and Recreation, Leisure Services Administration: *The Marty Minter Award*—Jodie Ackerman

National Organization of Phi Kappa Zeta Sorority: *Phi Kappa Zeta Scholarship Award*—Melissa Malzkun, Erin Moran, Rachel Smith

The Metropolitan Washington Deaf Community Center Award: Tajudeen Akinloto, Jennifer Beall, Margaux Delotte-Bennette, Lena Dunning, Jocelyn Mackzum, David Spicer

Graduate School Awards

Research Writing Award—Tiffany Harvey for her paper entitled "Auditory Neuropathy: Diagnosis and Management," Mary Thumann for her paper entitled "Phonology of a Fingerspelled Word"

Weiner Family Research Award—LaNina' Mompremier

Graduate Student Achievement Award—Gloria Nathanson

Outstanding External Collaboration Award—Richard Robinson, Prince George's Hospital Center, and Dr. JoAnn Mackinson, Dr. Robert Katz, and Dr. Rob Levin, Springfield Hospital Center

Outstanding Graduate Faculty Award—Dr. Matthew Bakke

Special Awards

Recognition of contributions by members of the Gallaudet Community—Chair, Council on Graduate Education, Dr. James Mahshie for the fall 2006 semester and Dr. H-Dirksen Bauman for the spring 2007 semester

Graduate Student Association for the 2006-2007 academic year—Christen Symanski ■



The Office of International Programs and Services (OIPS) celebrated the 135th year of Gallaudet's international programs with a special International Awareness Week in April. There was a Miss International Gallaudet pageant, workshops and panel discussions, dance performances and skits, an international social hour and bake sale, international film showings, and a black tie gala—all to promote cultural and educational exchange in the Gallaudet community. ABOVE—Pictured (from left) are: students Susanna Krige and Boitumelo Moanakwa, co-chairs of the Pageant Committee; Patricia Roswant, English Language Institute (ELI) instructor and an advisor to the pageant committee; Olatokunbo Ogunbayo, first runner up in the pageant; Tanya Sealy, Miss International Gallaudet; and Na Su, second runner up. BELOW—The San Kofa Dance Theater performs traditional Chinese drumming at the gala. The celebration was sponsored by OIPS, the ELI Student Organization, and the International Student Club. Additional help came from the Office of Development and the Center for Academic Programs and Student Services. The event committee was chaired by Ali Sanjabi, ELI instructor and counselor, with assistance from student Haydee Garcia and promotion by Siavosh Hedayati.



Trustees get update on filling vacant positions

The Board of Trustees is making progress on identifying potential trustees to fill vacant positions on the board. Reporting for the Committee on Trustees on May 11, Dr. Harvey Goodstein said 52 nominations have been received, to date.

However, Goodstein said more time is needed to read through the list of nominees and determine which of them are most qualified to be interviewed in the coming weeks by President Robert Davila and Board Chair Pamela Holmes. He added that the committee wants the nomination process to be ongoing so that any member or friend of the Gallaudet community who thinks of an individual they feel would make a positive impact on the University as a board member will be encouraged to submit the name as a nominee.

The following board members were reappointed for additional terms at the May 11 meeting: Dr. Benjamin Soukoup, Dr. Cynthia Ashby, Frank Ross, and Richard Kinney. The board also approved resolutions to three trustees who are stepping down: Ken Levinson, a trustee for 18 years, and Charles Williams and Susan Elliot, who have served on the board for 13 years.

The trustees approved tenure to the following faculty members: Matthew

Bakke, Speech, Hearing, and Language Sciences; Brian Greenwald, Government and History; Fred Mangrubang, Education; Bryan Miller, Psychology; Cynthia Roy, Interpretation; Risa Shaw, Interpretation; Laurene Simms, Education; Helen Thumann, Education; Stephen Weiner, Communication Studies; and Amy Wilson, Educational Foundations and Research.

The board also approved appointing Mike Ligas, Sprint Relay director, as a new member of the Board of Associates.

A general pay increase ranging from 0 to 3 percent for Gallaudet employees was approved by the Board of Trustees. However, the board cautioned that the salary hike would be contingent on the federal appropriation, and the early indication from Congress is that funding will be tight.

In other topics, Richard Kinney, chair of the Committee on Financial and Institutional Affairs, announced that the University's endowment stands at \$186.1 million. Action on setting tuition and fees for the 2008-09 academic year was delayed by the board until its October meeting in order to get an update on the University's enrollment figures. ■

Photo by Bial Chinoy

Photo by Bial Chinoy



Following President Davila's installation on May 9, a private reception was held in the Kellogg Conference Hotel, drawing about 250 guests, including Gallaudet supporters, Installation speakers, Davila's family members, and trustees. Here, Davila chats with Kendall School student Bridgett Berrigan, who spoke at the ceremony on behalf of the Clerc Center's preschool and elementary school children.

Dr. Davila holds town hall meeting

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The announcement of Dr. Weiner as provost was met with exuberant cheers from the audience. Davila's expression of gratitude to Dr. Michael Moore for the great strides he has made as interim provost also garnered a spirited response from the crowd. Moore will continue in this role through June 30, when Weiner will officially begin his duties. But Davila emphasized that Weiner will get no holiday—he immediately joins the President's Agenda for a Better Gallaudet University initiative. Davila also announced that the main support for meeting MSCHE's requirements will shift from the President's Office to the Provost's Office, but he made it clear that neither he nor Moore are stepping aside in the effort.

When the MSCHE team found after its January visit that Gallaudet was deficient in eight out of 14 standards, the University gave its full attention to address these perceived shortcomings in preparing a supplemental report to the accrediting body. When the team announced after a return visit in early May that Gallaudet still fell short in several areas, Davila said he took issue with its findings—particularly a statement from the team read during an exit interview to the campus community that the supplemental report largely “plans to plan” rather than provides tangible details. While saying “I strongly disagree” with the statement, Davila noted his respect for the team and its mission of seeing that the approximately 500 colleges and universities it oversees meet stringent criteria to maintain accreditation.

Accreditation is vital for Gallaudet to retain its prestigious standard as the world's leader in the education of deaf and hard of hearing people, said Davila. “I don't think accreditation is an option, it's a must,” he said.

Sometimes it takes an unfortunate incident for people to come together and prove their strength. This is the situation Gallaudet faces, said Davila. But he added, “I'm very confident that we can not only meet expectations, but exceed them to create a new future for Gallaudet to be not only another accredited institution, but the best institution ever.”

The biggest challenge that the University faces is the short time frame it has been given by MSCHE. Davila said he is appealing MSCHE's November 2008 deadline for the University to be in compliance with its standards to meet re-accreditation, but he added that he doesn't hold high expectations that an extension will be granted. Therefore, it is incumbent upon everyone at the University to unite and pursue this single cause.

Gallaudet stands at a crossroads, said Davila, and it is time to “get back to basics,” he said. The University must refocus its priorities on student learning and outcomes and everything that supports them—culture, scholarship, leadership development, and shared governance. This will involve revamping the University from the ground up—a new mission statement, strategic plan, and undergraduate general education curriculum—and it must be done quickly.

Davila charged the working groups for the President's Agenda with accelerating their pace to meet the following timelines: June 30—a new mission statement must be written and submitted to the Board of Trustees for review; a detailed plan to enhance the campus climate must be in place; September 1—a new undergraduate curriculum must be implemented; plans that assess outcomes of undergraduate and graduate programs must be carried out; a comprehensive strategic plan with measurable goals to determine student success must be enacted; and a comprehensive written enrollment assessment plan must be in place. In addition, Davila said the Board of Trustees must also develop a self-assessment system and immediately begin work on a process to select the next president. He also announced that the new ombudsman would be on board by June 30.

Representatives of key campus constituencies came to the Elstad Auditorium stage to show solidarity with the president: Mark Weinberg from the University Faculty Senate, Cary Barbin from the Staff Advisory Committee, Robert McConnell, president of the Student Body Government, and Shannon Grossinger, a representative of the Graduate School Association. “I've heard pessimism” about Gallaudet's future, said Weinberg. “I feel optimism. This is an incredible opportunity to set aside our differences and focus on what unites us.” ■

Commencement

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colleagues at RIT/NTID, and all of your friends.”

Following Simone's address, he and Dr. Betty Miller were awarded honorary doctor of humane letters degrees.

Miller, a member of Gallaudet's Class of '57, is a professional deaf artist and certified counselor in the field of alcohol and drug abuse among deaf and hard of hearing people. She is the first deaf person to receive certification as an addiction counselor and the first Gallaudet alumna to earn a doctoral degree. In 1976, she received a doctorate in art education from Pennsylvania State University.

In the art world, Miller is renowned for expression of her deaf experience, a genre named Deaf View/Image Art or De'VIA. She has been called the “Master of Deaf Art” because there are few deaf artists today who are not indebted to her for her vision of making the life and culture of deaf people the focal points of her work.

Also recognized were Dr. Donna Mertens, a professor in the Department of Educational Foundations and Research, who was chosen as the 2007 Distinguished Faculty Member; Dr. Willy Conley, a professor in the Theatre Arts Department, as recipient of the Schaefer professorship for the 2007-08 academic year; Dr. William McCrone, a member of the Counseling Department for 30 years, as professor emeritus; and, in absentia, Dr. Constantina Mitchell, a professor in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, as professor emeritus. Special recognition was paid to Dr. Michael Moore for his role as interim provost since last October. Board of Trustees Chair Pamela Holmes praised Moore for guiding the University “through a time of great turmoil.” She added, “His tenure will long be remembered as one in which respect and civility returned to the campus.”

Representing the Class of '07 were Haydee Garcia (undergraduates) and Cecily Whitworth (graduates). Garcia talked about the persistence she exercised in her journey from being a citizen in Cuba, where she knew nothing about the outside world, to standing on the Field House stage as a newly minted graduate.

Garcia first learned of Gallaudet at age 19 from a visitor to her country. Determined to get a Gallaudet education, she fled to Mexico, then to Chicago, Ill. Even though she was alone and had no money, Garcia kept her sights on Gallaudet. After a few years she applied and was accepted to the University, and became a U.S. citizen as well. She credited faculty members Dr. Donald Ammons, Dr. Beth Benedict, and Dr. Stephen Weiner for giving her the added support she needed to succeed. She reminded her classmates, “Graduating from Gallaudet is not the end but a new beginning; there is much more for us to seek in life.”

Whitworth spoke of the value of being bilingual. She worked last summer in Rwanda at a school for deaf children. The children were taught the three official languages of the country—Kinyarwanda, French, and English, plus Rwandan sign language. However, there was only one deaf teacher, and he only worked part time. “It is sad that the hearing teachers at the school in Rwanda could only barely communicate with their deaf students, and it is sad that I grew up in a country where people are only expected to be able to use one language, English,” said Whitworth.

“We at Gallaudet are lucky in that we are already a step ahead of most American universities” by knowing English, ASL, and frequently, other languages as well, said Whitworth. “I encourage all of you not to let that head start go to waste.... Be multilingual and be proud of it.” ■

Gallaudet Fact—

A. In 1910, College Hall had a fire. On February 6, according to articles from *The Evening Star* and *The Buff and Blue* newspapers, the uppermost floor of the building caught on fire from “burning rubbish” that wafted up through the waste chute. Winds blew the fire toward the Chapel and East Wing, which were evacuated. The water used to extinguish the fire damaged the lower floors and, since it was a cold day, froze as it fell, covering the building and its surroundings in ice.

Source: Articles reprinted in *Our Heritage: Gallaudet College Centennial*, 1964.

Dr. Davila installed as Gallaudet's ninth president

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Eleanor Holmes Norton (D), ninth-term congresswoman for the District of Columbia, who holds an honorary degree from Gallaudet, spoke of the significance of Davila taking the helm of the University during a time of new beginnings. “I believe that under Davila's leadership, Gallaudet will continue in the same tradition” that began with the signing of the University's charter by President Abraham Lincoln as “first of a kind, one of a kind, and a beacon of hope to all the world,” said Norton.

Norton called Davila “a perfect messenger” to tell the world of Gallaudet's mission. “Who could know the University so well as someone who has taught here and served here? You know Gallaudet as no president has ever known it in all its iterations and all its levels,” she said. Noting Gallaudet's challenges, she said of Davila, “Your broad shoulders

are ready-made for the task you have so generously agreed to make your own. ... All have gathered around you, all love you, all are grateful that you have returned ...”

“I love the University,” said Davila. It's the only reason, he said, for coming out of retirement to help it progress. Now, more than ever, in a global economy, “We need to give our students the preparation, the education, the knowledge, and the tools that they need to succeed and compete,” he said. Judging from the five months he has spent in office, “I'm encouraged,” Davila said. “We have wonderful people here who are willing to take risks to do everything possible to keep Gallaudet number one in the field.”

Thanking his supporters for their confidence in him, Davila accepted the task before him, but added that it's a responsibility the entire community shares. “I'll call on you,” he said, “because together we can't lose.” ■

Gallaudet faculty member called on by media to explain behavior that led to Virginia Tech killings

After a gunman on the Virginia Tech campus went on a killing rampage April 16, carrying out the deadliest mass shooting in U.S. history, the news media contacted the American Sociological Association to glean some understanding of how someone could be capable of such a horrific act.

The association referred the media to Dr. Suzanne Lea, an assistant professor in Gallaudet's Department of Sociology, who is well respected for her expertise in the social psychology of violent behavior. Lea appeared on "ABC World News" and was interviewed by the British newspaper *The Guardian* for her insights on what drove Virginia Tech student Seung-Hui Cho to kill 27 students and five teachers before turning on himself one of the two handguns he used in his murderous spree.

Lea, whose educational background is in sociology with an emphasis on criminology, has devoted much of her studies to social psychology, in particular, delving into the identity processes of people living in isolation—a lifestyle it appears Cho was leading.

Because a person's social identity develops through interacting with others, what happens when that interaction doesn't occur? An individual who is troubled may be afraid to talk to others for fear that he or she will be rejected on the basis of being different, or even strange, said Lea. Without an outlet for disturbing thoughts or obsessions, the person can eventually erupt and commit violent acts.

Lea gained her expertise by complet-

ing the Ph.D. in sociology program with a minor in criminal justice at Indiana University, Bloomington, which is noted for its social psychology program. After receiving her degree in 2005, she was offered faculty positions at several universities, but Gallaudet's "seemed of the most interest to me," she said. Despite her extensive exposure to different cultures while pursuing her degrees in sociology, "I had surprisingly little knowledge of deaf culture, so as a sociologist, the opportunity to learn and live among a different culture was an interesting proposition," she said. "I like the people and the campus, and not a day goes by that I don't learn something new. Gallaudet offers a different perspective on issues that I hadn't considered before, and that comes from the experience of being a distinct culture."

Lea has also been busy writing. A new book, *Delinquency and Animal Cruelty: Myths and Realities about Social Pathology*, will soon be published by LFB Scholarly Publishing, and she has written an article for the spring issue of *Proteus* magazine with Barbara Stock, an assistant professor in the Department of Philosophy and Religion, entitled "Animal Abuse: Hardening Children's Hearts?" Another article that explores the role of women in crime is expected to be published later this summer in the magazine *Battleground: Women and Gender*.

This summer, Lea will lead the course "SOC395: The Social Psychology of Criminal Behavior." ■



President Davila greets Akie Abe (right) - the wife of the Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, during a visit to Gallaudet as part of a two-day trip to Washington, D.C. She was accompanying her husband to Washington for his first official state visit. She came to Gallaudet to learn about the education of deaf students and American deaf culture. Mrs. Abe has an interest in deaf education and recently visited the University of Tsukuba in Japan, which has a program for deaf students. While on campus, Mrs. Abe had a tour, got a personal demonstration of a Sorenson video phone from Dr. Davila, and met with a contingent of Japanese Gallaudet students.

Among Ourselves

Department of ASL and Deaf Studies graduate students won several awards at the Deaf Rochester Film Festival, held March 18 to 20. **Bridget Klein's** "An Unnoticed Life" won the Juried Award, Short Student Film. **Roxanne Dummett** and **Andrew Jones'** "Unity for Who?" won the Juried Gallaudet Protest Films Award. **Samuel-Scott Reekers'** "Artistry of the 2006 Protest" garnered second place, while **Melissa Malzkuhn's** "Tara's Story" won the Rochester Institute of Technology School of Film and Animation's Filmmaker's Film, Gallaudet Protest Films Award.



Kelby Brick (right) of Hands on Video Relay Services responds to a question from moderator Anjali Desai-Margolin (left), employment/internship advisor in the Career Center, during the April 11 "Deaf or No Deaf" panel discussion, sponsored by the Career Center. The program, a take-off on the television game show, "Deal or No Deal," stimulated lively discussion about the many issues students face as they consider career options in deaf and hearing work environments. The deaf professionals on the panel talked about obstacles they encountered when working in a hearing environment and how they overcame them. They also discussed the similarities and differences of working in deaf and/or hearing environments. The other deaf professionals on the panel are (from second left): Robert Rice of BayFirst Solutions, LLC, Seth Bravin of International Business Machines, and Lauren Obermiller of Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

Clerc Center Happenings

Clerc students win awards in arts competitions

By Susan M. Flanigan

KDES and MSSD students were among the top winners in the Marie Jean Philip ASL Poetry, Storytelling, and Deaf Art Competition, sponsored by Northeastern University and the Washington (D.C.) Chapter of the National Society of Arts and Letters.

Four KDES students and one MSSD student won top awards in the Marie Jean Philip competition. The contestants submitted entries in one of four categories: ASL Poetry, ASL Storytelling, Deaf Art, and Letter Art (similar to ABC hand shapes). Five different levels are assigned to each category: age 8 and under, ages 9-12, ages 13-18, Special Needs, and age 19 and up/open.

Four MSSD students will be recognized for their achievements at the Society of Arts and Letters ceremony, which will be held at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on May 29. The awards recognize aspiring high school juniors who have shown promise in art, creative writing, dance, drama, or music. ■

Winners of the Marie Jean Philip ASL Poetry, Storytelling, and Deaf Art Competition:

ASL Poetry, Second Place
KDES second grader Elisha Spinosi

ASL Storytelling, Second Place
KDES third grader Joviah Gage

Letter Art, First Place
KDES fourth grader Jonathan Guzman
MSSD junior Amy Martin

Letter Art, Second Place
KDES fourth grader Wolfgang Staley

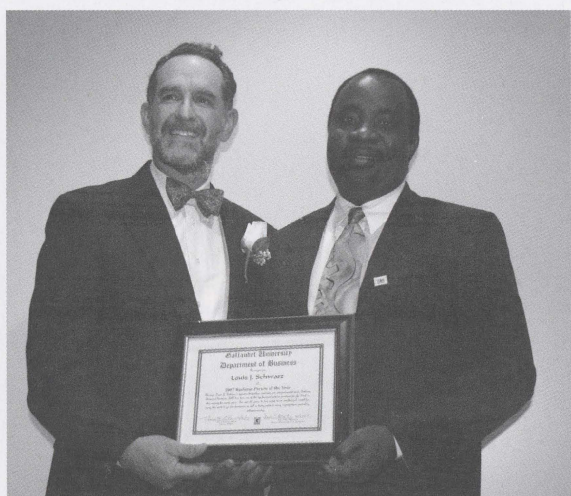
Winners of the D.C. Chapter of the National Society of Arts and Letters

Excellence in the Arts:
MSSD junior Rikki DiMaria

Certificate of Merit for Excellence in the Arts
MSSD junior Mike Kayembe (for art)
MSSD junior Amy Martin (for drama/ASL poetry)
MSSD junior Ameena Patterson (for dance)



(From left) Students Michael Papili, Scott Cohen, and Adam Hilyard (right), and Jorge Santiago-Blay, an assistant professor in the Biology Department, planted seven coniferous trees between MSSD, KDES, and Carlin Hall on April 24, in recognition of Arbor Day, which took place that week. They hope to make this a campus-wide tradition to emphasize the importance of good stewardship of the Earth.

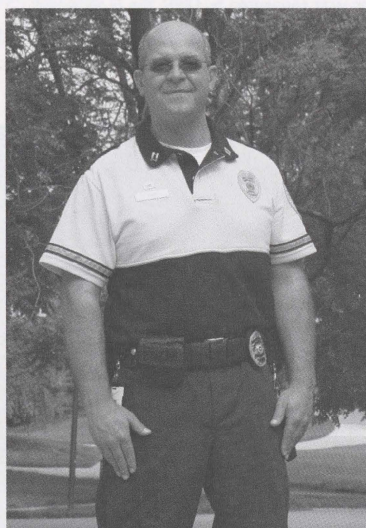


Louis Schwarz (left), CEO of Schwarz Financial Services, LLC, shown with Department of Business Chair Isaac Agboola, was honored as the "Business Person of the Year" at an April 26 Business After Hours event. Schwarz was recognized for being a role model for more than 30 years to budding entrepreneurs, and for making his company one of the top financial service providers for the deaf community. The Ronald E. Sutcliffe Business Bowl, an annual event that tests business student's knowledge in the field, was also held that evening. The first prize (\$500) winner was Douglas Surette, a

business administration major; the second prize (\$250) winner was Justin Adkins, also a business administration major; and the third prize (\$100) winner was Silvia Herdicka, an accounting major.

Up Close

Captain Patrick Rader



Patrick Rader's devotion is recognized by his superiors. According to Meloyde Batten-Mickens, director of DPS, "Overall and consistently, Captain Rader's compassion brings a solid spirit of dedication and commitment to the department."

One of the most visible and well liked people on campus is Department of Public Safety (DPS) Captain Patrick Rader, who is often seen patrolling campus on his Segway.

"I enjoy riding the Segway, as opposed to driving around campus," said Rader, "because I enjoy interacting with the students, faculty, and staff. It allows for more interaction, I can cover more ground, and it's better for the environment."

Rader has been on the Gallaudet campus for 10 years—the past five years with DPS. He started as a security guard and worked his way up into his current position. A DPS captain serves as the shift supervisor, which includes training new officers.

DPS has a team debriefing before every shift starts to discuss recent incidents on campus and what to expect that day. Among DPS officers' many duties are giving jump starts for dead vehicle batteries, providing campus escorts, responding to emergencies, and helping people who are locked out of their building or vehicle. "There is no typical day," according to Rader. "Every day is different. My goal is to help students feel safe and comfortable so they can focus on their education."

The campus community is invited to get to know the DPS officers who serve Gallaudet. Rader says, "The past year was tough on all of us. We want a fresh start. We are here because we care about Gallaudet and the students." ■

Student Affairs Exposé

Confusion about confidentiality

By Kyle Amber Clark and
Dr. William Kachman

Significant life changes during college years, personal issues, and major events can create high levels of stress and affect students' mental health. When faced with these challenges, students can come to the Mental Health Center (MHC) to receive counseling services.

In counseling, confidentiality is a necessary and integral part of therapy, but sometimes it is clinically beneficial to incorporate others in the therapeutic process. However, when doing so, it is important to understand students' legal rights to confidentiality. This is especially important in the highly interconnected deaf community where word gets around amazingly fast and therapists can encounter clients in social situations.

There are several laws that relate to confidentiality that affect the University, with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) being the most well known. FERPA permits sharing of educational information within the University without written consent when there is a "legitimate educational interest." In contrast, District of Columbia mental health laws and the ethical standards of the American Psychology Association and other professional mental health organizations require that mental health professionals obtain written consent from the client before sharing information, with a few specific exceptions. Written consent is not required to release information when a client is at risk to

him/herself or others, when there is reasonable suspicion of abuse or neglect of a child or dependent adult, and when a court orders release of information.

At times the confidentiality laws may be frustrating for staff and faculty who desire to help a student in need. For example, if a faculty or staff member refers a student to the MHC and later contacts the center to follow up, the MHC, without written authorization, cannot share information, even that the student made an appointment. However, when it is clinically beneficial, the MHC works with a student to obtain written consent so that faculty and staff, family members, and friends can work as a team to support the student. In many cases, students willingly give consent.

College students' mental health needs and their severity are increasing on most college campuses. There are many times when students turn to faculty or staff members to help them with their troubles. Faculty and staff and the MHC have a shared responsibility to support students while keeping in mind the importance of confidentiality. It is often helpful for faculty and staff referring a student to the MHC to reassure the student that the services they receive are confidential.

For more information about confidentiality and how to refer students to the MHC, see mhc.gallaudet.edu or send an email to mh.center@gallaudet.edu. ■

Ask Cousin Sally

Cousin Sally's column will return in the next issue of *On the Green*. Send your questions to cousin.sally@gallaudet.edu.



On April 21, leaders and esteemed figures from the Asian deaf community came together to support the Philippine School for the Deaf (PSD) on its 100th anniversary. The fundraiser took place in the HMB atrium. Undergraduate Roslyn Ramos, as mistress of ceremonies, introduced an array of speakers and performers that included Miss National Asian Deaf Congress Elaine Kam (pictured doing a Filipino fan dance), storyteller Ronald Hirano, and President Robert Davila, who has visited the Philippines several times and commented on the importance of PSD. Other highlights were a tribute to Dr. Delight Delia Rice, the founder of PSD; an authentic Filipino meal; dancing; and a display of traditional Filipino crafts. The major organizer for the festivities was Gallaudet alumnus Marlon Monroy, who is studying event and conference planning at The George Washington University. "I never had a deaf Filipino friend until I got to Gallaudet," Monroy said. He saw this event as a way to apply what he learned while repaying Gallaudet for those important connections. He also saw the event as an opportunity to delve into his background as a Filipino American.

Talented student filmmakers' works showcased

The Art Department presented its sixth annual juried show, "Deaf Student Film Showcase '07," on April 30 in the Jordan Student Academic Center. The event offered a venue for deaf student filmmakers to share their creative short films, including storytelling, jokes, drama, and documentaries.

While most of the films were presented in ASL, some had subtitles, and transcripts were available upon request, making them accessible for the deaf community and hearing viewers alike. The judges were Dr. Jane Norman, a professor in the Department of Communication Studies, and Angela Farrand, associate professor in the Theatre Arts Department. Guest speakers were Gary Brooks, production specialist for Academic Technology, and Michael Nesmith, a student assistant in the Art Department.

Students winning awards were:

Best Documentary Shorts:

First Place: [tie] "Hamburges, VI," Grayson Bliss; "The Gallaudet Protests," Jake Lowe

Second Place: [tie] "Traveling in Puerto Rico", Patricia De Beer; "The Land of Enchantment," Ursa Rewolinski

Best Experimental Shorts:

First Place: "The Book of Silence," Grayson Bliss

Second Place: "Golfball," Ursa Rewolinski and Chester Kuschmider

Director's Choice Award: "Deaf Filmmakers," Mark Wood and Gary Brooks, produced by Bradley Gantt. ■